## **CLAIMS**

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- 1. Pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of a small or medium size peptide or of a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in aqueous solution, wherein it is free from preservatives.
- 2. Pharmaceutical composition consisting of a therapeutically effective amount of a small or medium size peptide or of a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in aqueous solution.
  - 3. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein it is free from adsorption inhibitors.
- 4. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein it is free from degradation inhibitors.
  - 5. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the small or medium size peptide is cyclic.
  - 6. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the small or medium size peptide is cyclic.
    - 7. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein the small or medium size cyclic peptide contains one or more sulfur atoms within the cyclus.
    - 8. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, wherein the small or medium size cyclic peptide contains at least two sulfur atoms within the cyclus.
- 9. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of derivatives and analogues of oxitocin and vasopressin, and the salts thereof.
  - 10. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of the analogues of vasopressin, and the salts thereof.
  - 11. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the analogue of vasopressin contains a mercaptopropanyl radical.
  - 12. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the analogue of vasopressin is desmopressin acetate hydrate.
- 13. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, having a pH comprised between 3.5 and 6.
  - 14. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing a buffer selected

from the group consisting of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate and citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate.

15. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, further containing a buffer selected from the group consisting of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate and citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate.

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- 16. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing an agent for controlling the osmolarity.
- 17. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, further containing an agent for controlling the osmolarity.
- 18. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the agent for controlling the osmolarity is sodium chloride.
  - 19. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing at least 0.02 mg of desmopressin, at least 3 mg of a buffer, an amount of an agent for controlling the osmolarity such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma, and 1 ml of purified water.
  - 20. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, containing at least 0.02 mg of desmopressin, and further containing at least 3 mg of a buffer, an amount of an agent for controlling the osmolarity such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma, in 1 ml of purified water.
  - 21. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, containing from 3 to 6 mg of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate buffer, or from 5 to 11 mg of citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate buffer.
  - 22. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, containing from 0.02 to 0.15 mg of desmopressin, from 1 to 2.5 mg of citric acid monohydrate, from 2 to 5 mg of disodium phosphate dihydrate, 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.
  - 23. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22, containing 0.1 mg of desmopressin, 1.7 mg of citric acid monohydrate, 3 mg of disodium phosphate dihydrate, 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.
  - 24. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, containing 0.1 mg of

desmopressin, and further containing 1.7 mg of citric acid monohydrate, 3 mg of disodium phosphate dihydrate, in 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.

- 25. Process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, comprising operating in pre-sterile environment, sterilely filtrating through 0,22  $\mu$ m filters, collecting the filtrate in sterile environment and distributing it in sterile vials.
- 26. Process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, operating in pre-sterile environment, sterilely filtrating through 0,22  $\mu$ m filters, collecting the filtrate in sterile environment and distributing it in sterile vials.
- 27. Spray unit containing a composition according to claim 1, and equipped with a multidose pump, absolute filter for the aspiration air, and an auto-blocking mechanism of the actuator.
- 28. Spray unit containing a composition according to claim 2, and equipped with a multidose pump, absolute filter for the aspiration air, and an auto-blocking mechanism of the actuator.
- 29. Spray unit according to claim 27, wherein the vial is of glass.

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30. Spray unit according to claim 27, wherein the vial is of plastic.